AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Amend the paragraph bridging pages 17 and 18 as follows:

In an alternative embodiment of the device of Fig. 6, particularly suitable for home use, inter-pulse interval selector 132 enables a selection of intervals ranging from 0.1 nsec to 2 seconds, while power selector 136 enables treatment energies between 0.1 J/cm^2 and 40 J/cm^2. Preferably, the pulse duration and the number of pulses available for selection are restricted so as to prevent the user from delivering energy at too high a rate. If the user selects a large pulse number, the pulse duration is necessarily short, whereas a small number of pulses forces a longer pulse duration in order to achieve the selected total energy. It is preferable to use a larger number of pulses and a smaller pulse duration in order to limit the rate at which light energy is applied to ~~a skin surface~~ protruding hair fibers. Pulse number selector 134 may therefore enable a selection of three to ten pulses per pulse sequence, while pulse duration selector 138 enables a selection of pulses lasting 1 msec to 10 msec. The various pulse sequence parameters may be selectable from sets of discrete values or, alternatively, from continuous ranges.

Amend the paragraph bridging pages 18 and 19 as follows:

As discussed above, control unit 140 activates light source 142 to produce light pulses in bursts having a total energy between approximately 0.1 Joule and approximately 100 Joules per square centimeter of the skin surface. If opening 158 takes the form of a slit one-half millimeter wide and two centimeters long, hairs pulled into

chamber 162 through opening 158 are collectively subjected to an energy of between 0.01 Joule and 10 Joules. Generally, stronger [[does]] doses of radiation are used where the target hair is light hued, coarse and dense, while weaker does are used where the target hair is dark, fine, and sparse.

Amend the second full paragraph on page 19 as follows:

Using the device of Fig. 6, a user can select the parameters of two or more distinct pulse sequences to be delivered to each group of hair fibers captured via opening 158. One pulse sequence may define a relatively low rate of energy application, for inducing heat conduction along the hair fibers to segments thereof below the skin line, while another pulse sequence may define a relatively high rate of energy application, for sharply severing the hair above the skin line. Generally, pulse sequences for damaging (and ultimately severing) hair fibers below the skin line are characterized by low light intensities, [[short]] long pulse durations, long inter-pulse intervals, and low total energies. Conversely, pulse sequences for sharply severing hair fibers above the skin line are characterized by high light intensities, [[long]] short pulse durations, short inter-pulse intervals, and large amounts of total energy.

Amend the second full paragraph on page 21 of the specification as follows:

Where the instantaneous light intensity is held to a uniform value while the remaining pulse parameters are essentially independently adjustable, lower treatment

energies will generally result from settings involving few pulses (say, 1-3 instead of 8-10 pulses), long inter-pulse intervals (300 msec or more), short pulse durations (20 msec or less). In these circumstances, the total energies will be relatively low, for instance, less than 10 or 20 Joules per square centimeter of skin surface. If a given setting proves to be ineffective at a given light intensity, the user might adjust selector 132 or 138 to decrease the inter-pulse interval or ~~increase~~ decrease the pulse length, thereby effectively increasing the average power or rate at which the radiant energy is delivered to the target skin surface. Alternatively or additionally, the user might increase the number of pulses via selector 134.

Amend the second full paragraph on page 23 of the specification as follows:

The light of the pulses is generally incoherent and the spectrum includes wavelengths between about 200 nm and 1200 nm. This spectral range targets melanin in the hair fibers, as well as any dyes applied to the fibers (Fig. 5). In addition, wavelengths above 800 nm (e.g. between 800 nm and 1500 nm) will target water molecules in the hair. However, single wavelengths of laser or coherent light may be delivered at one time, when desired. ~~The wavelength of light may be above~~